

Remarks

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-8, 10-11, 13-14, 16-17, 19-20, 22-23, 25-26, 28-29, 31-32, 34-35, 37-38, 40-41 and 43-44 were rejected as unpatentable over NGUYEN WO 99/03293 in view YI et al. 5,946,632 and WILLIAMS et al. 5,475,735.

The Official Action acknowledges that NGUYEN and YI et al. do not disclose or suggest the step of altering the registered area of each location-limited mobile station to alternative registered areas during a preset time period (or the corresponding limitations in the system and record medium claims) and relies on WILLIAMS et al. to modify the primary reference to include this feature.

The applicant had previously pointed out that the references do not disclose or suggest altering the registered area to an alternative registered area during a preset time period, noting that WILLIAMS et al. (column 5, lines 13-16 and lines 40-44) state that whenever the station finds itself in a different access network, it will register there and that "whenever" is not a preset time period. The Advisory Action responded by asserting that the preset time period is when the mobile station is in the presence of the foreign access network.

The "preset time period" has been clarified and consideration and allowance of the amended claims are respectfully requested. In the system claims, the preset time

period is defined prior to entry into the time period. In other words, the time period is defined in advance. This amendment avoids the interpretation of the references set forth in the Advisory Action because the time period when the mobile station is in the presence of the foreign access network of WILLIAMS et al. is not knowable prior to the entry into the foreign access network.

The method and record medium claims have been similarly amended by adding a preset time period defining step in which the preset time period is defined. The subsequent steps have also been amended to refer to the preset time period so as to require the defining step prior to the other steps. The references do not disclose or suggest these steps in this sequence.

Accordingly, the amended claims avoid the rejection of record.

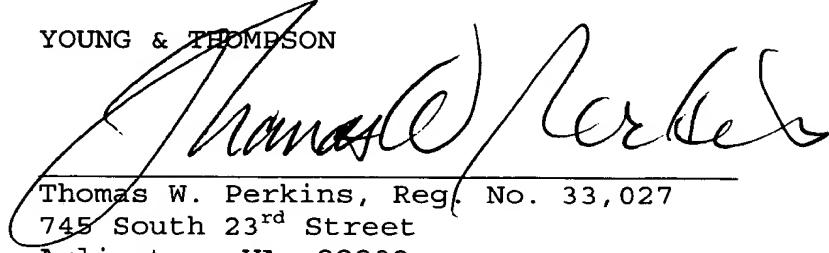
In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Application No. 09/649,133  
Amdt. dated January 21, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of August 21, 2003  
Docket No. 8029-1025

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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TWP/lrs